SPECIAL FEATURE NO. 3-1814 JUNE 20, 1978
JOYCE

NEWPORT AT THE WHITE HOUSE
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

TAPE: MUSIC: LIONEL HAMPTON ORCH. "GEORGIA ON MY MIND" -- EST. & HOLD UNDER -- CAN BE FADED OUT AS DESIRED -- TOTAL CUT 2:15

VOICE: THE NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL, AN ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF AMERICA'S LEADING JAZZMEN -- AND JAZZ WOMEN -- HAS BEEN AROUND. NEXT WEEK IT WILL HOLD ITS TWENTY FIFTH MEETING. BUT IT'S BEEN AROUND IN THE OTHER SENSE OF THE TERM, TOO. CONCEIVED BY NIGHT CLUB OWNER AND EMPRESSARIO GEORGE WEIN (WEAN), THE FESTIVAL HAS MOVED AROUND FROM SITE TO SITE IN AND NEAR THE SUMMER RESORT CITY OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND. IT HAS BEEN HELD AT A TENNIS CLUB, ON THE ESTATE OF A TOBACCO MANUFACTURER, AT A DOWNTOWN NEWPORT PARK, AND IN A FIELD ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF NEWPORT. CONCERTS WERE DISRUPTED FREQUENTLY DURING THE TURBULENT YEARS OF THE LATE NINETEEN SIXTIES; AND FINALLY, THE CITY OF NEWPORT TOLD WEIN THAT THEY DID NOT THINK THEY COULD COPE WITH UNRULY MOBS OF WHAT AT THE TIME WERE CALLED HIPPIES. THE PRESENCE OF HIPPIES ALSO HAD A BAD EFFECT ON PAID ATTENDANCE, SO MR. WEIN RELUCTANTLY MOVED HIS FESTIVAL TO NEW YORK CITY, INTO THE CONCERT HALLS AND THEATRES. IN FACT, HE WILL BE USING THREE SEPARATE CONCERT SITES WHEN HE PRESENTS HIS SILVER ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK NEXT WEEK.

WELL, THE NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL HAS HAD AN ADDITIONAL CHANGE OF SCENE, BECAUSE THIS PAST SUNDAY EVENING MR. WEIN ASSEMBLED MORE THAN FORTY OF THE TOP FIGURES IN JAZZ ON THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE WHITE HOUSE, HERE IN WASHINGTON. IN HIS WELCOMING

VOICE: (CONT'D) REMARKS, PRESIDENT CARTER NOTED THAT JAZZ IS THE ONLY TRULY AMERICAN ART FORM, AND THAT IT HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN BRINGING BLACK AND WHITE AMERICANS TOGETHER. JAZZ, THE PRESIDENT COMMENTED, IS AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR EXPORT.

AND THEN THEY CAME...MUSICIANS SPANNING THREE GENERATIONS AND NEARLY A CENTURY OF JAZZ: ROY ELDRIDGE, DIZZY GILLESPIE, TEDDY WILSON, LIONEL HAMPTON, STAN GETZ, ZOOT SIMS, MARY LOU WILLIAMS...AND SUCH CONTEMPORARY STARS AS GEORGE BENSON AND CECIL TAYLOR. AND, AS IT FREQUENTLY HAPPENS WHEN JAZZ PEOPLE GET TOGETHER, THE SCHEDULED HOUR FOR THE FINALE CAME AND WENT, PRESIDENT CARTER EXTENDED THE CLOSING FOR A HALF AN HOUR, AND MR. WEIN ANNOUNCED THE FINAL SET -- A MEDLEY OF TWO TUNES: HOW HIGH THE MOON AND FLYIN' HOME, FEATURING LIONEL HAMPTON. WELL, AS IT TURNED OUT, THE CONCERT WAS DESTINED TO HAVE TWO ADDITIONAL FINAL NUMBERS. POPULAR SINGER PEARL BAILEY MADE AN UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCE ON STAGE DURING THE SECOND NUMBER, AND MRS. CARTER ASKED HER TO SING. AN ACCOMPANYING CAST WAS QUICKLY ASSEMBLED, AND MISS BAILEY OBLIGED. MEANWHILE, PRESIDENT CARTER HAD GONE BEHIND THE BANDSTAND TO BID FAREWELL TO THE MUSICIANS. HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT DIZZY GILLESPIE HAD APPEARED IN ONLY ONE SET, AND SINCE IT ISN'T EASY TO TURN THE PRESIDENT DOWN, DIZZIE AGREED TO PLAY ONE MORE NUMBER. BUT, BY THIS TIME, THE DRUM SETS HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE STAGE AND MOST OF THE MUSICIANS HAD PACKED UP THEIR INSTRUMENTS. DRUMMER MAX ROACH CAME TO THE RESCUE. HE TOOK ONE PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT FROM HIS SET: A PAIR OF SYMBOLS KNOWN AS THE "HIGH HAT," NORMALLY PLAYED BY A FOOT PEDAL. MAX ALSO TOOK A PAIR OF DRUM STICKS, AND

VOICE: (CONT'D) PRODUCED AN AMAZING VARIETY OF SOUNDS, MUCH TO THE DELIGHT OF DIZZY, THE AUDIENCE AND THE PRESIDENT. BUT IT WASN'T FINISHED YET. THERE WAS TO BE A FINALE. MAX ROACH ANNOUNCED THAT THE MUSICIANS THAT WERE LEFT WOULD PLAY AN OLD TUNE CALLED "SALT PEANUTS". "BUT THERE ARE SOME DIPLOMATIC STRINGS ATTACHED," SAID MISTER ROACH, AND THEN CONTINUED IN THESE WORDS;

TAPE: CUT TWO -- ROACH

"TO WIT -- THAT THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF -- HIS...MAJESTY - SINGS THE LYRICS TO 'SALT PEANUTS'" (CHEERS & APPLAUSE)

VOICE: PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER THEN TOOK OVER THE MICROPHONE AND SANG HIS UNFORGETTABLE VERSION OF "SALT PEANUTS".

TAPE: CUT THREE -- CARTER & MUSICIANS "SALT PEANUTS" LET IT PLAY OUT THROUGH END -- CARTER'S REPLY "I MIGHT HAVE TO AFTER TONIGHT."

VOICE: AND THAT'S THE WAY JAZZ AT THE WHITE HOUSE ENDED ON SUNDAY NIGHT.

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BML/RCS